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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT Rocket Launcher of Czechoslovak
Manufacture

DATE DISTR. 26 September 1956

NO. PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT
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INFO.PLACE &
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REFERENCES

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

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1. The first rocket launchers manufactured in Czechoslovakia were mounted on reconditioned Studebaker trucks. In 1954, the rocket launchers were mounted on Tatra-128 trucks, and in 1955 the newly constructed V-3-S trucks were used also as carrier trucks for the rocket launchers.

2. Weapon data:

16 barrels in two rows of eight barrels each; the length of a barrel about 110 centimeters.

Caliber about 12-13 centimeters.

Elevation range: from 15 degrees to 50 degrees; hand operated.

Rotation possible up to 180 degrees; hand operated.

Effective range: eight kilometers.

Maximum range: 12 kilometers.

Ammunition carrying capacity: 48 rounds - 32 in ammunition carrier, 16 loaded in barrel.

Maximum speed when loaded with ammunition: 30 kilometers per hour.

Rate of fire: maximum one salvo in two minutes.

System of firing: electrical either in one salvo of 16 rounds, or individually barrel by barrel.

Ammunition: fragmentation shells or delayed action shells with rocket cartridges, the length of the shell proper about 25 centimeters, the length of the rocket about 80-85 centimeters.

Sights: optical, on the left upper barrel (in the direction of fire).

Electric firing mechanism: on the left lower barrel.

Rocket launcher crew: leader, truck driver, sights layer, loader, two ammunition carriers.

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3. Legend for the sketches

1. Rocket launcher carrier truck.

2. Ammunition boxes (for 32 rounds), metal construction.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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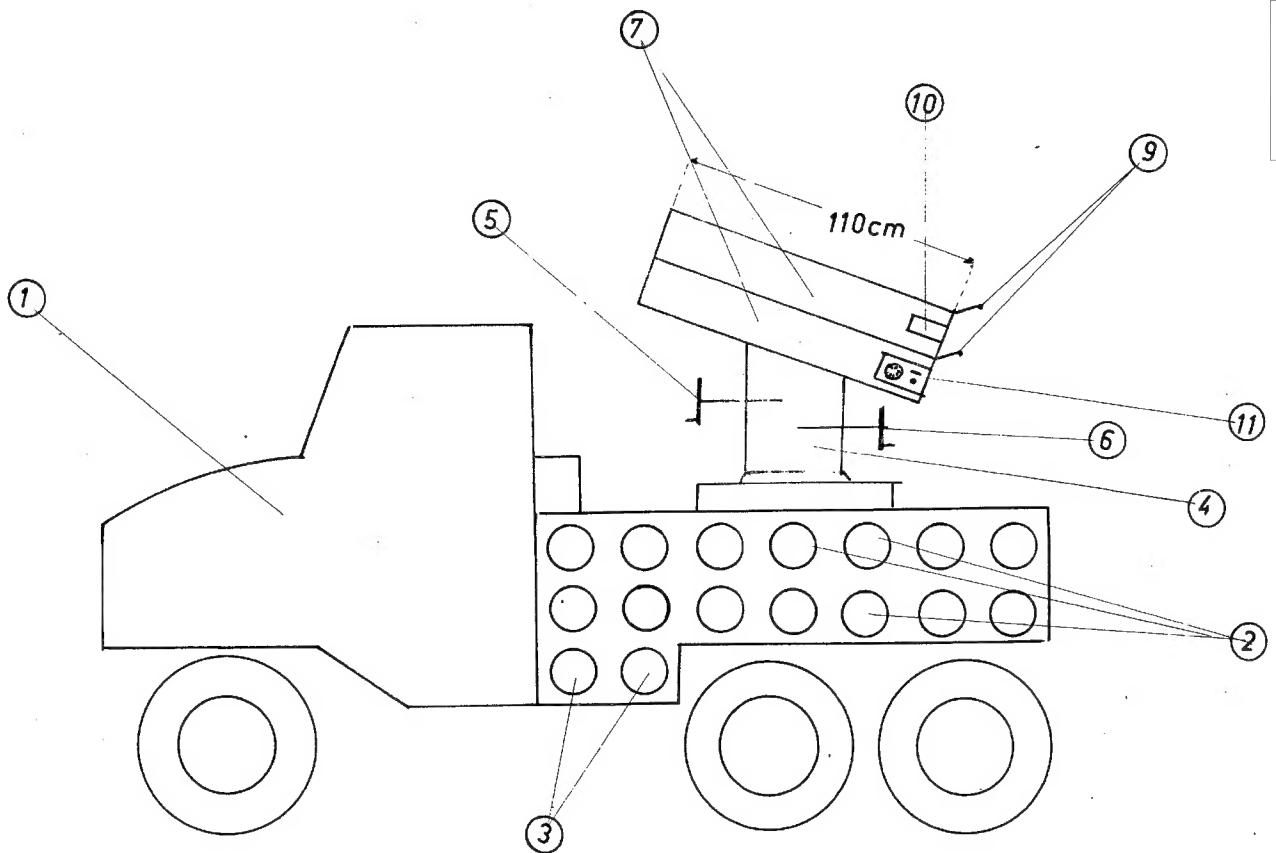
3. Ammunition boxes (for 32 rounds), metal construction.
4. Rocket launcher base, metal.
5. Hand elevation gear (range from plus 15° to plus 50°).
6. Hand horizontal gear (maximum movement 180°).
7. Barrels, 16 in all, smooth inside, joined together by metal bands.
8. Springs, four in each barrel, at the muzzle end. When a shell is loaded, the springs keep it inside the barrel. The weapon is loaded from the front.
9. Electric contact lever, can be pushed aside after the firing and when the weapon is re-loaded, the levers are pushed down again to provide the the contact.
10. Optical sights; the aiming is on the same principles as indirect gun laying. The firing data are computed with the help of firing tables by a battery commander.
11. Electric firing mechanism; the dial can be regulated either for salvos or for single rounds.
12. Rocket shell:
 - a. the proper shell, about 25 centimeters long.
 - b. safety fuze.
 - c. rocket cartridge, about 30 - 35 centimeters long.
 - d. electric firing fuze.

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Attachment: 1

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Attachment: 2

